



EXPLOSION OF POWDER

Misplaced Blast Causes Great Damage.

THREE MEN KILLED

Three Railroad Employees Fatally Injured and Two Laborers Seriously Wounded.

FREIGHT CARS IN CREEK

Huge Rocks Demolish Bridge, Crash Through Roofs and Floors of Dwellings, Also Wreck Pile-driver—Rocks Were Hurlled for Quite a Distance.

CHATTANOOGA, May 16.—An explosion of powder at the foot of Lookout Mountain today caused the following damage:

Killed, three trainmen; probably fatally injured three railroad employes; wounded, two laborers; blew up railroad bridge; threw freight train off track, eleven cars going into Chattanooga Creek; destroyed three houses; wrecked pile-driver.

The men at work for W. J. Oliver & Company on a railroad extension set off the powder. The bridge was crushed by several tons of rock hurled by the blast just as a heavy freight train was going onto the bridge. Other rocks were hurled 600 yards and crashed through the roofs and floors of residences.

PROSECUTES GAMBLERS.

Jerome to Revive Law—Fines Will Build Hospital.

NEW YORK, May 16.—District Attorney Jerome is preparing to prosecute gamblers and poolroom proprietors under a section of the penal code which up to now has practically been a dead letter. He is being helped by Corporation Counsel Ellison. One of Mr. Jerome's assistants will be appointed a special corporation counsel to bring suits under the section in question. This section permits the charities commissioner to institute civil suits against every one who wins or loses at play or betting by a sum of \$25 or more in one day. Every such person must pay over not less than five times the amount of his gains or losses to the commissioner and the money must go to the poor. There is no exception in favor of racetrack betting. Mr. Jerome has in his possession a great mass of evidence collected at the time of the raids on poolrooms six weeks ago, and he has also the backing of the Dowling law to compel gamblers to tell him who their customers are and the amounts of such customers' stakes. The sum involved is very large, it is believed. It is even suggested that if the law is revived and rigorously enforced enough money can be collected to establish a new hospital. It is said that Mr. Jerome's determination to apply the section is owing to the unfavorable attitude of the legislature toward the anti-betting bills drafted by him in the early session.

LAND FRAUD INDICTMENTS.

Federal Grand Jury at Denver Returns Indictments Against Twelve.

DENVER, May 16.—The Federal grand jury which was impeached on Tuesday made report yesterday of its first day's work to Judge R. E. Lewis in the United States District Court. Indictments were returned for 12 men who are charged with land frauds.

Judge Lewis ordered warrants issued for their immediate arrest. Most of the warrants must be served out of town and until the arrests are made no names will be given out for publication.

SEVEN YEARS.

Sentence Received by the Baroness De Massey Convicted of Murder.

NEW YORK, May 16.—Anisa Louise de Massey, popularly known as the "Baroness de Massey," recently convicted of having shot and killed Gustav Simon, a Broadway shirtwaist manufacturer, was today sentenced to serve seven years and five months in the state prison for women at Auburn.

MORE DREADNAUGHTS.

Orders Given for the Laying of Keels for Several More.

LONDON, May 16.—Orders have been given to lay the keels of battleships of the Dreadnaught type. It has been understood that in case the proposal for disarmament took definite shape in the Hague conference only one Dreadnaught could be laid down. The order for two such ships is construed as Great Britain's acknowledgment of Germany's refusal to entertain the disarmament question.

GRAND OPERA.

NEW YORK, May 16.—Advice from Paris report that Mary Garden, an American, who is prima donna of the Opera Comique, has signed a contract to be one of the leading singers at the Manhattan Opera House next season in New York.

WHEAT IS STILL UP

Passed the Dollar Mark Again Yesterday.

SHORT CROP IS REPORTED

This Year's Yield in Europe and America Said to Be Below Normal Owing to Wet Weather—Jump in Prices as Market Closed.

CHICAGO, May 16.—Wheat prices on the board of trade again crossed the dollar mark. The bulge carried September up to 109 1/2 and December to 102. At the same time July advanced to 99 1/2. The upturn was due largely to the reports that this year's crop in Europe and America would be greatly below normal, owing to wet weather. The gaudium which was accompanied by the sensational advance, almost equalled that of Monday when prices made spectacular ascent beyond the dollar mark. Unlike Monday, the passing of the dollar mark occurred just before closing.

EDWIN CONGER ILL.

At His Home in Pasadena, Expected to Die at Any Time

PASADENA, May 16.—Edwin Conger, ex-minister to China and recently resigned ambassador to Mexico is critically at his home in this city.

Dr. Conger came to Pasadena immediately after his return from Mexico in 1905. Since then he has been slowly dying. The end may come at any hour.

Ex-Minister Conger first came into prominence as minister of Brazil, in 1897. He was in Peñon during the Boxer siege and conducted the negotiations for the United States after the allied powers had captured that city.

MANAGER OF N. P.

DETROIT, Mich., May 16.—H. C. Nutt, general superintendent of the Michigan Central Railway, has resigned to become general manager of the Northern Pacific at Tacoma.

RUEF BEFORE GRAND JURY

Tells of Bribing of Supervisors.

TURNS STATES EVIDENCE

Rumored Movement on Foot to Make Schmitz Resign no Officially Confirmed.

RUEF WILL TELL EVERYTHING

Declares That He Lost More Money in Politics Than He Made—His Sentence When Pronounced Will Be Indefinitely Suspended.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—Abraham Ruef today made good his declaration of yesterday that he would turn state's evidences and assist the bribery prosecution in its campaign against municipal corruption. Ruef obeyed the summons from the grand jury this afternoon and went in charge of Special Agent Burns and another deputy to the grand jury's headquarters in the Native Sons' Hall where he took the witness stand and submitted to an examination that lasted from 2.20 p. m. until after 5 p. m.

When the ordeal was over, Ruef called the newspaper men around him and said that he had promised the grand jury to divulge nothing. District Attorney Langdon and Assistant District Attorney Heney likewise refused to make any statement whatever. From Special Agent Burns, it was learned that the only matter on which Ruef was questioned was the alleged bribing of Mayor Schmitz and the 18 supervisors by the United Railroads to grant that corporation permission to electrify its 250 miles of street railway system. If Burns' understanding of Ruef's testimony is correct, the fallen boss told the grand jury that President Calhoun, Assistant President Mullaly, Chief Counsel Ford and Assistant Counsel Abbott of the United Railroads paid or caused to be paid the sum of \$200,000 for the privileges named, that \$61,000 of this amount was Ruef's "fee," that \$50,000 went to Schmitz and the remaining \$89,000 was handed to the 18 supervisors, 16 of whom received \$4000 each and another \$10,000 and Chairman Gallagher of the finance committee \$15,000.

After the examination of Ruef was concluded the grand jury remained in an executive session until 6:30 o'clock. Subsequently the statement was made, but not officially confirmed, that indictments had been voted against four high officials of the United Railroads and Schmitz, as predicted by an officer of the prosecution two weeks ago. The understanding is that the carrying out of the sentence that is to be imposed on Ruef two weeks hence by Judge Dunne will be indefinitely suspended, in order that when Ruef takes the stand in court against "those higher up" his testimony shall not be that of a convict. Detective Burns is the authority for the statement that it is the purpose of the prosecution to send Ruef to prison eventually, but the trial of the corporation officials will be thought to take so long that Ruef's incarceration in the penitentiary will be delayed for at least a year. No move has been made for his admittance to bail. It is said that he prefers to remain in the custody of Elisor Biggy, for the present at least.

Mayor Schmitz, both yesterday and today denied himself to the newspapermen. "I have nothing to say, no statement of any kind or character to make,"

was the statement he sent out.

According to Burns, Ruef "will tell everything he knows, despite his own declaration that he would not expose or testify against 'those who were dragged into corruption by the forces of overwhelming circumstances or against their will.'"

Ruef claims Mayor Schmitz "knew all about supervisors' dirty deals." Ruef declares he himself lost money in politics, more money than he made. It is understood Ruef is to be called by the grand jury tomorrow.

It is rumored tonight that there is a movement on foot to bring about the resignation of Mayor Schmitz and the choosing in his stead of Frederick W. Dohrmann, a prominent wholesale merchant. The report lacks official confirmation.

FRISCO CAR STRIKE.

All Reported Quiet—Geary Street Line Not in Operation.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—There were no important developments in the streetcar strike. About 150 cars of the United Railways were in operation over eight lines of the system. Both the officials of the United Railroads and Carmen's Union expressed themselves satisfied with the situation. Contrary to the announcement made last night the Geary street line was not in operation today.

STROMBOLI ACTIVE.

MESSINA, May 16.—A violent eruption of the Stromboli volcano occurred today. It was preceded by a tremendous detonation and followed by continuous explosions which, however, were less violent.

PLOT DISCOVERED

Conspiracy Against Czar's Life Traced to Plotters.

HIS PERSONAL ESCORT

Members of Body Guard Involved—Arrest of Cossack Sergeant Discloses Details and Aids Police in Uncovering the Whole Scheme.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 16.—Further details of the plot at Tsarskoe Selo against the life of the Emperor which came to light yesterday were obtained today, and indicate that the Emperor's escape, during Passion week was very narrow. The plot was deep laid and the conspirators were members of the Emperor's personal escort. The arrest of one man, a cossack sergeant, has made it possible to trace the conspiracy back four months and show that preparations were being made on February 2, when the police issued orders to use every effort to identify the purchaser of a uniform of his majesty's own cossack escort, which had been found during a raid. The use of a regulation uniform is the favorite device of the terrorists and the cossack garb is an open sesame to palaces at Tsarskoe Selo and Peterhof. After the soldier had made a confession, the news went the round among the members of the Imperial guard. The cossack sergeant, who was a gatekeeper at one of the entrances to the palace, became frightened and also confessed.

PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLY.

Reverend William H. Roberts Elected Moderator of General Assembly.

COLUMBUS, O., May 16.—Rev. William H. Roberts, of Philadelphia, for 14 years state clerk, was today unanimously elected moderator of the 119th general assembly of the Presbyterian church at the opening session, following the delivery of the annual sermon by Rev. Ira Landrith, of Nashville, moderator of the last Cumberland Presbyterian assembly. The moderator announced tonight that Rev. Charles Manton, of Paris, Texas, would act as vice-moderator.

BOISE TRIAL RESUMED

Little Progress Made in Short Session

DIFFICULTIES INCREASE

Work of Completing Panel Made Harder by Strong Opinions of Talesmen.

A CHANGE OF OPINION

Haywood Sympathizers and Labor Men Express Opinion That Haywood Will Be Given Fair Trial—Orchard Talks to Press Representative.

BOISE, May 16.—During the one session of the Haywood case, today, 11 talesmen were examined before a satisfactory juror was secured to replace William Van Orsdale, the grocer, at seat No. 12, who was peremptorily challenged yesterday. As the court adjourned today the defense exercised its first challenge by relieving Allen Pride, a farmer at No. 5. Pride testified during his examination that he was invited to dinner by the deputy who served him with the jury summons and during the meal he and the deputy talked regarding Harry Orchard.

As the work of the jury selection progresses the difficulties in the way of completing panel seem to increase. Today another of the talesmen was excused because of his strong opinions entertained in connection with Steunenberg's death. One man was called for service, but was dismissed by the court, he indicated that he was prejudiced because of the serious acts attributed to the state prosecution during the past year. Each side still has nine peremptory challenges to exercise and there remain 57 more of special venire to draw from.

It would appear from interviews with the most well informed people in Boise and of counsel on both sides that any fear of trouble caused by the more radical element has now almost entirely disappeared. The belief is expressed that the representative men of labor union circles throughout the country fully realize that the State of Idaho proposes to give the men a fair trial. That this is the fact those who have watched the conduct of the case do not attempt to deny. The writers for Socialist newspapers and for the organizers of the labor unions, who are here in large numbers, themselves in conversation state most positively that their views have changed and express the conviction that Haywood will be given every opportunity to clear himself of the terrible charge against him. A year ago violence was openly preached as a remedy for what are believed to be wrongs done to labor leaders. Today the situation is different. Among all the people here, representing as some of them do, the most radical element in the United States, moderation is counseled and full confidence is expressed in the attitude of the people of Idaho towards the accused.

Harry Orchard, the prisoner witness upon whom the state relies to prove its charge, that the inner circle of Western Federation of Miners planned the conspiracy for the murder of Governor Steunenberg, broke his long silence today and for over half an hour discussed himself and his imprisonment with a representative of the Associated Press, whom he had expressed a desire to see. Orchard said he had not been given any mistreatment during his confinement, he denied that any force had been used to

secure the statements made and denied that Detective McPartland and the officers of the state had promised him immunity for his confessed crime or a reward for his alleged confession. Orchard's manner and conversation during the interview tended strongly to confirm the assertion that he has been re-converted to and is deep in his zeal of the Christian religion. The two illustrations that were used to explain the change in the kind of books he reads were Christianlike in character and religious in tone. Orchard is perfectly sound and healthy in body, clear and quick of brain. If there was anything to the reports that he was breaking down in health and mind there is nothing now in his appearance or manner to give them shadow of suggestiveness.

AT WEST POINT.

Kuroki Witnesses Drills of Cadets in Rain.

WEST POINT, N. Y., May 16.—Rain this morning was not permitted to interfere with the entertainment of General Kuroki on his visit to the Military Academy. The party rode to the Service Plain, where they witnessed drills, artillery practice and field calisthenics by the cadets.

YESTERDAY'S BASEBALL SCORES.

Coast League.
At Portland—Portland 1, San Francisco 6.
At San Francisco—Los Angeles 3, Oakland 1.
Northwest League.
At Vancouver—Spokane 13, Vancouver 4.
At Seattle—Seattle 1, Tacoma 2.

WEDDING ECHO

Minister Who Married Corey Begged Forgiveness.

RETURNED THE WEDDING FEE

Reverend John Clark, Who Performed the Corey-Gilman Ceremony, Repents Action—His Apology Accepted by Credential Committee of Church

NEW YORK, May 16.—Rev. John L. Clark, pastor of the Bushwick avenue Congregational Church, of Brooklyn, who recently officiated at the ceremony of W. E. Corey and Mabelle Gilman, submitted to the credential committee of the church a letter in which the minister begged forgiveness for having performed the marriage ceremony in question.

The committee recommended in view of the pastor's integrity and righteousness, together with his letter of apology, that no further action be taken. Later it was announced that Clark in his letter had added that he repaid fees given him at wedding.

INDIANA CARMEN STRIKE.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., May 16.—One hundred and twenty union streetcar employes walked out this morning upon the refusal of the Evansville & Southern Railway to grant an advance in wages.

CHICAGO DRAINAGE CANAL.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 16.—The General Assembly today took recess until October 8. At that time action will be taken on the proposed extension of the Chicago drainage canal as a part of the proposed deep-water ways between the lakes and the gulf.

HEAVY EARTHQUAKE.

CHILPANCINGO, May 16.—The worst earthquake that has visited this region since the disastrous disturbances on April 14 was felt here today.

FAMINE THREATENS RUSSIANS.

ELIZABETHGRAD, Russia, May 16.—A famine here is threatened by the entire failure of the winter wheat crop.